

a proximal portion comprising a distal end and a three-dimensional shape when at least a portion of the retrieval assembly extends out of the lumen from the distal end of the sheath; and

a distal portion positioned at the distal end of the proximal portion, the distal portion comprising a flat shape when the proximal portion extends from the distal end of the sheath.

19. The medical retrieval device of claim 18, wherein the proximal portion of the retrieval assembly comprises a plurality of legs.
20. The medical retrieval device of claim 19, wherein each one of the plurality of legs comprises a strand.
21. The medical retrieval device of claim 20, wherein each strand comprises stainless steel.
22. The medical retrieval device of claim 18, wherein the proximal portion comprises a rigid material and the distal portion comprises a flexible material.
23. The medical retrieval device of claim 18, wherein the distal portion comprises a plurality of wires.
24. The medical retrieval device of claim 20, wherein the distal portion comprises a plurality of flexible wires, each of the wires extending from a distal end of one of the strands to a distal end of one of an adjacent strand and a non-adjacent strand.
25. The medical retrieval device of claim 18, wherein the flat shape assumed by the distal portion is perpendicular to a long axis of the device.
26. The medical retrieval device of claim 20 wherein a plurality of distal ends of the strands define a square area when the proximal portion assumes the three-dimensional shape.
27. The medical retrieval device of claim 18, further comprising a guidewire, wherein axial movement of the guidewire in a proximal direction collapses the distal portion of the retrieval assembly.
28. The medical retrieval device of claim 18, wherein the guidewire is joined to a central portion of the distal portion of the retrieval assembly.
29. The medical retrieval device of claim 18, wherein moving the sheath in a distal direction causes the retrieval assembly to collapse when it enters the lumen.
30. A method for removing an object from a body tract, comprising:

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inserting a retrieval device into the body tract, the retrieval device comprising:

a proximal handle;

a sheath extending from the handle and including a lumen, the sheath including a distal end away from the handle;

a retrieval assembly that is moveable relative to the sheath to achieve a collapsed position of the retrieval assembly within the lumen, the retrieval assembly comprising:

a proximal portion comprising a distal end and a three-dimensional shape when at least a portion of the retrieval assembly extends out of the lumen from the distal end of the sheath; and

a distal portion positioned at the distal end of the proximal portion, the distal portion comprising a flat shape when the proximal portion extends from the distal end of the sheath;

extending the retrieval assembly beyond the distal end of the sheath;

trapping the object by the distal portion of the retrieval assembly; and

withdrawing the retrieval device from the body tract to remove the object from the body.

31. The method of claim 30, further comprising dilating the body tract around the object by the proximal portion when the proximal portion assumes the three-dimensional shape.
32. The method of claim 30, wherein extending the retrieval assembly comprises moving the sheath in a proximal direction to cause the retrieval assembly to achieve an open position when the retrieval assembly extends beyond the distal end of the sheath.
33. The method of claim 30, wherein the retrieval device further comprises a guidewire having a distal end joined to the distal portion of the retrieval assembly.
34. The method of claim 33, wherein trapping comprises: trapping the object between the distal portion of the retrieval assembly and a body tissue when the distal portion assumes the flat shape; and collapsing the retrieval assembly by axially moving the guidewire in a proximal direction to move the distal portion of the retrieval assembly towards the distal end of the sheath.--

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